

City of Holtville

News from City Hall

From the Desk of the City Manager

This past year has been somewhat exciting for our city staff crew. We have acquired several million dollars in grants for transportation infrastructure, improving water quality, and recreational opportunities for the community. The Carrot Festival and Rib Cook-Off are two signature events that the city continues to support with staff and funding. We are working with members of our community to add a third event, billing it as "the great race." The Redevelopment agency is working with local business owners to put a new face on downtown. We continue to meet with land developers and builders, several times a week as to the possibilities of new housing in the city. We have two tentative maps that have been filed which would propose to add over 1,000 new homes in the next few years. The city also welcomed its new Chief of Police John Vanelli on September 1, 2005. Chief Vanelli and his wife Karen are looking forward to living and working in our community. There are so many good things to write about that there just isn't enough space. However, one thing you can be sure of is that very little occurs without the ongoing commitment of a group of very dedicated city staff. Most of our staff not only work here but also live in the city. They are your neighbors and your friends. You



City Hall Hours:
Monday through Friday
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Closed from 12:00 to 1:00

can be confident that the city staff is working to make this city a better place to live, work and play.

Steve Hogan



GO VIKINGS!

City Officials



The City Council meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month at 6:00 p.m.
(Closed session is at 5:30 p.m.)

Mayor: Victor Gillespie

Mayor Pro Tem: Doug Byram

Councilmembers:

Colleen Ludwig, Jerry Brittsan, Patrick Galliher

The Planning Commission meets on the 3rd Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m.

Chairman: Carrie Anderson

Chairman Pro Tem: Todd Thornburg

Commissioners: Dee Bradshaw, Sherry Poore, Bob Fischer

Volume 1, Issue 1

Fall 2005

City Hall Directory

City Manager—356-4574
Presidente Municipal
Finance Dept.—356-4685
Departamento de Finanzas
City Clerk— 356-4170
Secretaria Municipal
Personnel—356-3013
Departamento de Personal
Public Works—356-2632
Obras Publicas
Fire Dept.—356-2673
Departamento de Bomberos
Police Dept.—356-2991
Departamento de Policia
Water Dept.—356-2912
Departamento de Agua
After Hours Water
Emergency—356-2991

EMERGENCY 911
EMERGENCIAS 911

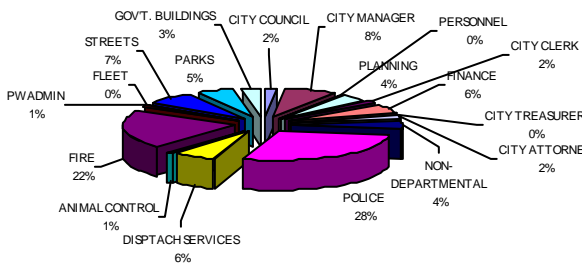
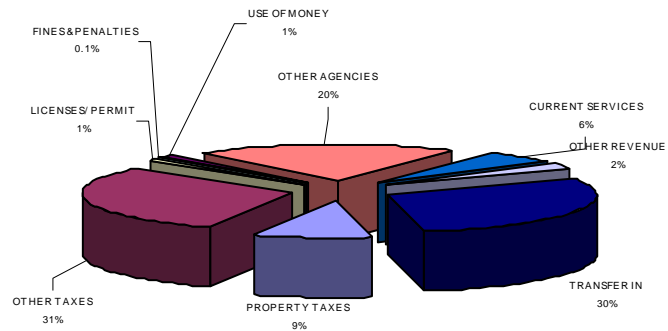
Inside this issue:

| | |
|---|---|
| 2005-2006 Budget Overview "Your Money Matters" | 2 |
| Utility Billing Rate Information | 2 |
| Fire Department | 3 |
| Fire / Safety Services | 3 |
| Public Works Information | 3 |
| Housing / Community Development | 4 |
| Health News | 4 |

Your Money Matters

Where does the money from the general fund come from?

- The General Fund is the primary operating fund of the City.
- It accounts for normal activities traditionally associated with government.
- The General Fund receives revenue that is not restricted to Special purposes and can be used to support general government functions.
- Approximately 60% of the general fund revenue is from tax sources.



Where is the General Fund money spent?

- Approximately 57% of the general fund is spent on public safety.
- Example of general government are City Council, Manager, Attorney, Clerk, Finance, Administrative Services, Personnel, and other City services such as Streets and Recreational activities.

For more information please go to www.holtville.ca.gov Finance Department page. This chart is based on the 2005-06 Annual Budget adopted on June 27th, 2005.

Utility Billing

Water User Rates

Monthly Charges within City limits:

First 15,000 gallons—\$31.42

Per every 1,000 gallons over 15,000— \$3.142

Monthly Charges outside City limits:

First 15,000—\$62.86

Per every 1,000 gallons over 15,000—\$6.283

OTHER CHARGES:

Late Penalty—\$10.00 or 10% whichever is greater

NSF Check—\$25.00

New Account Turn On—\$25.00

New Account Turn On (After hrs/weekend)—\$35.00

Reconnect/Repairs—\$25.00

Reconnect/After hrs/weekend)—\$40.00

**WATER BILLS ARE DUE THE 28TH OF EACH MONTH.
SHUT OFF DAY FOR NONPAYMENT OF YOUR BILL
IS THE 15TH OF EACH MONTH.**

IID Water Rate Increase:

As many of you have read in the paper the Imperial Irrigation District has increased the cost of water to the city from the current amount of \$16 per acre-foot to \$48 per acre-foot, effective July 1, 2005.

Starting September 1, 2005 any cash payments after 4:00 p.m. have to be exact amount.

Wastewater Rates

Residential Fee— \$32.62

For more information please visit our website www.holtville.ca.gov

Contact us for more information on the Senior Citizen Low Income Assistance Rate Program.

Business License / Building Permit Information

As a reminder, anyone doing business within city limits is required to have a City of Holtville business license. When a business or person is hired to do repair work on private property, they are also required to obtain a business permit.

Please check with City Hall before doing any construction or groundwork to see if a building permit is required or if the City has standards to be followed.

Also, please remember: It is the property owners responsibility to maintain alleys, sidewalks and gutters in a clean and safe environment.

Ref.: City Ordinance # 336.

Fire Department News



On August 22nd, the fire department concluded its Movie & Fire Prevention program for Holtville's youth. Throughout the summer, the station was opened to the public to enjoy G-rated movies, snacks and most importantly a fire prevention message. The Movie & Fire Prevention program enabled the fire department to get out its fire prevention message during the summer while the kids were out of school.

Fire Prevention Week is in October. The fire department will be visiting all of the City's schools in an effort to reach 100% of the children in Holtville. An Open House will also be held, concluding our Fire Prevention Week activities. This year's emphasis is on candle safety: **"When you go out, blow out."**

The Fire Department is doing nuisance abatement; if you have any questions contact Assistant Chief Alex Silva at 356-2673.

The department recently added a part-time office coordinator, Amanda Leimgruber, to its staff. She is helping the department operate the nuisance abatement program, fire prevention inspection and pre-incident plan records, and all other recordkeeping.

The department has three firefighters in the new Imperial Valley College Fire Academy; Chief Lantzer is the primary hazardous materials instructor. The academy will span two semesters.

Three more firefighters will be attending the Advanced EMT course in October. The course is organized by the Imperial County Public Health Department. The department currently has two Advanced EMT's.

The department just received notice from the Imperial County Fire Department that Holtville Fire will be receiving over \$14,000 in Department of Homeland Security (DHS) grant funds for the purchase of electrical generators and two four-gas detectors.

Police Department

The Holtville Police Department has a new Chief. John Vanelli has been selected as the new Chief of Police, replacing Interim Chief John Lemon. Chief Vanelli is a 26 year veteran of the Los Angeles Police Department, and took command of the Department on September 1, 2005. Community Oriented Policing is one of Chief Vanelli's highest priorities, as is the elimination of graffiti in the City. In the near future, a contest to design the Police Department's web site for graffiti abatement will be announced. An excellent prize will be awarded to the winner. Keep reading the newsletter for upcoming information. Chief Vanelli will make himself available to speak at any group meeting. If interested, you may contact the Police Department at 356-2991.

Public Works Information

Preparatory work has begun on Holt Park for the installation of new playground equipment. The older equipment will be removed as well as some trees to accommodate the new equipment. There will be a toddler area along with a five to twelve years old play area with shaded covering to protect from the sun. Three covered picnic area will be added, two with new BBQ facilities. The project should be finished by mid to late November 2005.

Crack sealing of city streets is well under way. The project should be completed by the end of September, 2005.

RECYCLING MAKES MORE SENSE THAN EVER.

You'd have a hard time finding a reason why NOT to recycle bottles and cans. After all, if you throw them away, it's a waste of natural resources, a waste of energy and a waste of money. An aluminum can, for example, can sit in a landfill taking decades to decompose, or it can be recycled and be back on the shelf in about 90 days, thereby:

- Reducing the need for virgin bauxite ore
- Saving enough energy to run a television for almost three hours
- Putting cash in the pocket of the person who took it to the recycling center

For more information on recycling, contact Recycling Coordinator, Elizabeth Rodriguez at 356-2632.

**Allied Waste is in the process of changing out the recyclable brown cans to the blue cans.*

Housing / Community Development



Vanessa, a Holtville resident enjoying a day out.

Assistance Programs Available

HOME Partnership Owner Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Program:

Major and minor rehabilitation of homes, applicants are qualified through State income limits and other HUD requirements.

First-Time Homebuyer Program:

Up to \$20,000 down payment assistance on the purchase of a new home. Applicants are qualified through the mortgage company of their choice. Sales price limits and income limits do apply.

Business Loans Available:

CDBG Enterprise funds are available for new businesses; i.e. start-up costs, construction costs and/or property acquisition costs at competitively low interest rates. Loans are also available for existing businesses that are looking to expand and create more permanent jobs. Up to \$35,000 is available per full-time equivalent job created.

Upcoming Fall Events

Holt Park Improvements
Crack Seal Street Improvements
The Great Motorcycle Race

Please call City Hall for more information at 356-2912

Health

IMPERIAL COUNTY REPORTS FIRST CASE OF WEST NILE VIRUS THIS YEAR

Following are some precautions that can reduce the risk of mosquito-borne diseases:

- Limit time outdoors during dawn and early evening.
- When outdoors, wear loose fitting, light colored, long-sleeve shirts and pants when mosquitos are most active (during dusk and dawn).
- Apply insect repellent according to label instructions.
- Make sure that doors and windows have tight fitting screens. Repair or replace screens that have tears or holes.
- Eliminate all sources of standing water on your property that can support mosquito breeding.
- Contact your local mosquito and vector control agency if there is a significant mosquito problem where you live or work.

For more information contact the Imperial County Public Health Department at 482-4968.

EL CONDADO IMPERIAL REPORTA EL PRIMER CASO DEL VIRUS DEL NILO OCCIDENTAL DE ESTE AÑO

Para reducir su riesgo de las enfermedades causadas por los mosquitos tomen las siguientes precauciones.

- Limite su tiempo al aire libre durante el amanecer y atardecer.
- Use ropa suelta de color claro, camisa de manga larga y pantalones cuando los mosquitos estan mas activos (durante el amanecer y atardecer).
- Use repelente contra insectos segun las indicaciones de la etiqueta.
- Asegurese que las puertas y ventanas tengan malla de alambre. Repare o cambia las mallas que se encuentren rotas o con hoyos.
- Elimine todas las fuentes de agua estancada en su propiedad que pudieran ser fuentes de criadero de mosquitos.
- Comuniquese con su agencia local de control de mosquitos y vectores si existe un serio problema con mosquitos donde usted vive o trabaja.

Para mas informacion favor de comunicarse con el Departamento de Salud Publico del Condado de Imperial al 482-4968.

